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Serial No. 09/855,149
Docket No. NEC 142135
Amendment B under Rule 116

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 8, and 14-18, as shown below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A network commerce system comprising:

an orderer terminal for interaction with an orderer ordering an item or service;

a plurality of producing/processing terminals each for interaction with a

producer/processor, said producer/processor producing and processing said item or providing a

produced and processed item, in accordance with an order from said orderer terminal;

wherein said orderer terminal and said producing/processing terminal are interconnected via said network; and

a headquarters terminal including a receiver for receiving an image data order from said orderer terminal transmitted via said network and a transmitter for transmitting the order received by said receiver to a producing/processing terminal via said network;

said headquarters terminal selectively determining said producing/processing terminal in accordance with a received order and then making the selected producing/processing terminal produce and process said item or provide a produced and processed item.

Claim 2 (original): The network commerce system defined in Claim 1, wherein said item or service is an item edited with digital data or editing of said digital data; and wherein said orderer terminal transmits said digital data together with said order; and wherein each of said producing/processing terminals receives said order and said digital data transmitted via

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said network and via said headquarters terminal and then edits said digital data in accordance with the content of said order.

Claim 3 (original): The network commerce system defined in Claim 2, wherein said digital data comprises image data or acoustic data.

Claim 4 (original): The network commerce system defined in Claim 2, further comprising a payment terminal connected to said network, for paying a purchase charge of said item sold or said service provided, via said orderer terminal.

Claim 5 (original): The network commerce system defined in Claim 2, wherein said item or said service is delivered or supplied to a destination other than said orderer.

Claim 6 (original): The network commerce system defined in Claim 3, further comprising a payment terminal connected to said network, for paying a purchase charge of said item sold or said service provided, via said orderer terminal.

Claim 7 (original): The network commerce system defined in Claim 3, wherein said item or said service is delivered or supplied to a destination other than said orderer.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The network commerce system defined in Claim [[1]]
2, wherein said digital data comprises image data or acoustic data.

Claim 9 (original): The network commerce system defined in Claim 8, further comprising a payment terminal connected to said network, for paying a purchase charge of said item sold or said service provided, via said orderer terminal.

Claim 10 (original): The network commerce system defined in Claim 9, wherein said item or said service is delivered or supplied to a destination other than said orderer.

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Claim 11 (original): The network commerce system defined in Claim 1, further comprising a payment terminal connected to said network, for paying a purchase charge of said item sold or said service provided, via said orderer terminal.

Claim 12 (original): The network commerce system defined in Claim 11, wherein said item or said service is delivered or supplied to a destination other than said orderer.

Claim 13 (original): The network commerce system defined in Claim 1, wherein said item or said service is delivered or supplied to a destination other than said orderer.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A headquarters terminal comprising:

orderer terminals each for interaction with an orderer ordering an item or service;

a plurality of producing/processing terminals each for interaction with a

producer/processor which produces and processes said item or supplies a produced/processed

item, in accordance with an order from each of said orderer terminals; and

- a receiver for receiving an order transmitted in image data form from said orderer terminal via said network;
- a transmitter for transmitting an item received by said receiving means to a producing/receiving terminal via said network; and
- a determinator for selectively determining said producing/processing terminal in accordance with a received order and then making said producing/processing terminal produce and process said item or making said selected producing/processing terminal supply said produced/processed item;

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a headquarters terminal including:

wherein a network commerce is performed between said orderer terminal and said producing/processing terminal connected via a network.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A producing/processing terminal comprising: orderer terminals each for interaction with an orderer ordering an item or service; a plurality of producing/processing terminals each for interaction with a producer/processor which produces and processes said item or supplies a produced/processed item, in accordance with an order from each of said orderer terminals; and a headquarters terminal including:

a receiver for receiving an order transmitted in image data form from an orderer terminal via said network;

a transmitter for transmitting an order received by said receiver to a producing/processing terminal via said network; and

a determinator for selectively determining said producing/processing terminal in accordance with a received order and then making said producing/processing terminal produce and process said item or supply said produced/processed item; wherein a network commerce is performed between said orderer terminal and said

Claim 16 (currently amended): An orderer terminal used in a network commerce system, said network commerce system comprising:

orderer terminals each for interaction with an orderer ordering an item or service;

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producing/processing terminal connected via a network.

a plurality of producing/processing terminals each for interaction with a producer/processor which produces and processes said item or supplies a produced/processed item, in accordance with an order from each of said orderer terminals; and

a receiver for receiving an order transmitted in image data form from an orderer terminal via said network;

a transmitter for transmitting an item received by said receiver to a producing/receiving terminal via said network; and

a determinator for selectively determining said producing/processing terminal in accordance with a received order and then making said selected producing/processing terminal produce and process said item or supply said produced/processed item; wherein a network commerce is performed between a producing/processing terminal and said headquarters terminal connected via a network.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A payment terminal used in a network commerce system, said network commerce system comprising:

orderer terminals each for interacting with an orderer ordering an item or service; a plurality of producing/processing terminals each for interacting with a producer/processor which produces and processes said item or supplies a produced/processed item, in accordance with an order from each of said orderer terminals; and

a headquarters terminal including:

a headquarters terminal including:

a receiver for receiving an order transmitted in image data form from said orderer terminal via said network;

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a transmitter for transmitting an item received by said receiver to a producing/receiving terminal via said network;

a determinator for selectively determining said producing/processing terminal in accordance with a received order and then making said selected producing/processing terminal produce and process said item or supply said produced/processed item; and

a payment terminal for paying a purchase charge of said item or service sold or supplied via said orderer terminal;

wherein a network commerce is performed between said orderer terminal and said producing/processing terminal and said headquarters terminal, interconnected via a network.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A network commerce method, wherein an orderer terminal orders an item or service via a network and a producing/processing terminal sells said item or provides said service, in accordance with said order, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving said order transmitted <u>in image data form</u> from said orderer terminal via said network, using a headquarters terminal;

selectively determining a producing/processing terminal for said item in accordance with the content of said received order, using said headquarters terminal;

transmitting said order to said selected producing/processing terminal via said network; making said selected producing/processing terminal produce and process said item or supply said produced/processed item; and

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paying, when said order is received or after said produced/processed item is supplied, a purchase charge of said item or service via said orderer terminal.

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